



Recruit Assessment Program (RAP)

Pilot Study at Fort Jackson,
SC

Accessions Research Consortium

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Long-Term Objective: RAP

- Establish a program for the routine collection of computerized, baseline health data from all enlisted and officer accessions, including active duty, reserve, and National Guard:
 - Demographics
 - Medical history
 - Psychosocial
 - Occupational exposures
 - Health risk behaviors

“The need for baseline health data before a war or hazardous deployment begins is one of the critical lessons learned from difficulties answering Gulf War health questions.”

Secondary Objectives

- Describe the health and health behaviors of new accessions
- Identify preventive services and programs that serve new accessions and reduce attrition
- Establish a database for health surveillance and longitudinal research to evaluate associations of baseline characteristics with attrition and injury

RAP at Fort Jackson

- An IRB-approved pilot study
- Participation is voluntary
- 30,707 recruits were briefed during FY03
- 21,955 recruits completed the survey (71%)
- 121 items in the survey
- Data collection will end 30 September 2004
- No funding for the pilot study

Preliminary Results

Example of survey items that may be associated with outcomes related to injury, mental health outcomes, and attrition during IET and 1st term enlistments

Important Next Steps

- Solicit and submit research protocols to evaluate the association of RAP variables with important outcome measures (injury, illness, attrition)
- Seek funding that will enable this research
- Directive from Health Affairs (DoD) to implement the RAP routinely service-wide (??)
- Program funding from DoD (??)

Research Plans

- Evaluate association of RAP variables with physical fitness, injury incidence, and attrition during IET
- Longitudinal studies to evaluate association of RAP variables to injury and attrition during 1st term enlistment
- Longitudinal studies to evaluate mental health service utilization and outcomes

Questions

US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Provide health promotion and preventive medicine leadership and services to counter environmental, occupational, and disease threats to health, fitness, and readiness in support of the National Military Strategy

